21 May 74 [redacted]

S E C R E T/EYES ONLY [redacted] Z MAY 74 [redacted]

CITE TEHRAN [redacted]

TO: IMMEDIATE GENERAL BRENT SCOWCROFT, WHITE HOUSE.

FOR: SECRETARY KISSINGER.

FROM: AMBASSADOR HELMS, TEHRAN.

REFS: A. TEHRAN-[redacted]

B. WH 40988

C. TEHRAN-[redacted]

1. IN THE COURSE OF AN AUDIENCE ON ANOTHER MATTER 21 MAY, THE SHAH TOLD ME THAT HE FEELS THAT IRAN'S PRESENT PROGRAM OF ASSISTANCE TO THE KURDS IS AT JUST ABOUT THE RIGHT LEVEL FOR THE PRESENT SITUATION. HE SAID HE HAS ADVISED THE KURDS AGAINST MAKING ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT THEY ARE A DEFACTO AUTONOMOUS STATE. THEY SHOULD ADHERE TO THE LINE THAT THEY [redacted] THEMSELVES A PART OF IRAQ AND ARE ONLY DEFENDING THEMSELVES AGAINST AN OPPRESSIVE ILLEGAL REGIME AND ARE SEEKING DEMOCRATIC LIBERTIES FOR ALL THE PEOPLE OF IRAQ.

2. THE SHAH'S COMMENT IS ENCOURAGING BECAUSE IT INDICATED THAT HIS THINKING IS REALISTIC AND PARALLEL TO OUR OWN AND THAT HE WILL ADVISE THE KURDS TO AVOID EMBARKING ON SOME OF THEIR MORE GRANDIOSE PROJECTS LOOKING TOWARD THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT, BUT ECONOMICALLY UNVIABLE ENTITY WHICH WOULD BE DEPENDENT [redacted] ON HEAVY FOREIGN SUPPORT.

HR70-14 (U)

RELEASED: [redacted]

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